

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Thirty-first Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of Thirty-first Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (257) of these admissions reside in the Thirty-first Middlesex Representative District. 5% (13) of admissions from the Thirty-first Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Thirty-first Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 69% were male and 31% were female.
- 59% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 90% were white non-Latino, 2% were black non-Latino, 5% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 67% were never married, 15% were married, and 18% reported not to be married now.
- 20% had less than high school education, 44% completed high school, and 35% had more than high school education.
- 40% were employed.
- 5% were homeless.
- 31% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Thirty-first Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	47%	34%	6%	4%	1%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002							
Thirty-first Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	167	128	49	40	28	37	24
FY '96	180	142	44	40	23	47	33
FY '97	220	191	77	49	23	42	33
FY '98	193	163	57	29	12	43	30
FY '99	236	173	83	67	23	89	63
FY '00	221	183	47	52	11	60	45
FY '01	241	163	41	65	25	104	77
FY '02	257	185	54	54	18	96	72